

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-7. (cancelled)

8. (original) A dielectric resonator filter comprising:

a plurality of dielectric resonators;

an enclosure enclosing the plurality of dielectric resonators to function as a shield against an electromagnetic field; and

a plurality of resonance-frequency tuning means provided on a one-by-one basis for the plurality of dielectric resonators, each of the plurality of resonance-frequency tuning means including a conductor plate disposed in a space enclosed by the enclosure to have a first surface opposed to a surface of the corresponding one of the dielectric resonators and a second surface opposed to an inner surface of the enclosure, the resonance-frequency tuning means being capable of changing distances between the conductor plates and the dielectric resonators,

the conductor plate of at least one of the plurality of resonance-frequency tuning means having a size different from sizes of the conductor plates of the other resonance-frequency tuning means.

9. (original) The dielectric resonator filter of claim 8, wherein the conductor plate of each of the resonance-frequency tuning means has a disk-shaped configuration.

10. (original) A dielectric resonator filter comprising:

- a plurality of dielectric resonators including an input-stage dielectric resonator for receiving a high-frequency signal from an external device and an output-stage dielectric resonator for outputting the high-frequency signal to an external device;
- an enclosure enclosing the plurality of dielectric resonators to function as a shield against an electromagnetic field;
- input coupling means for coupling the inputted high-frequency signal and an electromagnetic field in the input-stage dielectric resonator;
- output coupling means for coupling the outputted high-frequency signal and an electromagnetic field in the output-stage dielectric resonator; and
- an interstage-coupling tuning plate provided between those of the plurality of dielectric resonators having their respective electromagnetic fields coupled to each other to tune a strength of the electromagnetic field coupling,
- at least one of both side surfaces of the interstage-coupling tuning plate having a cutaway portion provided therein.

11. (original) The dielectric resonator filter of claim 10, wherein the cutaway portion in the interstage-coupling tuning plate has a generally rectangular configuration.

12-18. (cancelled)

CONCLUSION

Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Gregory A. Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs
Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GAS/kk